# THE FRENCH REPUBLIC.

A DEFINITE TREATY OF PEACE TO BE NE COTIATED AT BRUSSELS.

JULES PAVRE THE PRENCH REPRESENTATIVE-HERR VON ARNIM TO REPRESENT PRUSSIA. London, Monday, March 6, 1871.

The negotiations for a definitive treaty of peace will begin shortly at Brussels. It is said that M. Pavre will be the French plenipotentiary. It is probable that Herr Von Arnim, acting on the part of Germany, and Baron Baude, as representative of France, have already settled the main points, but the details, it is thought, will occupy several

#### MOVEMENT OF TROOPS.

THE PRUSSIANS WITHDRAWING WITHIN THEIR PRESCRIBED LIMITS-THE PARIS GARRISON RE-ENFORCED -- FRENCH PRISONERS RE-LONDON, Monday, March 6, 1871.

The Germans are rapidly evacuating the prescribed limits of France, the movement being conducted quietly and with admirable order. The Emperor goes this week to Ferrieres, and will review the various corps during his journey. Mont Valèrion and all the other forts will be evacuated on the 7th, Rouen on the 12th, and the left bank of the Seine on the 19th inst.

A corps of 40,000 French soldiers from the Provinces is now marching into Paris, where it will replace the troops of the line and Gardes Mobiles, who will begin to leave the capital on Monday. The staffs of the French and German armies are making arrangements to prevent the Germans from encountering the French in their movements.

A Dresden journal says all the French officers and all privates of the Gardes Mobiles, prisoners in Germany, may return immediately to their homes, if they so desire, at their own cost. Soldiers of the line and Imperial Guard will remain interned until arrangements for their transportation are completed.

The French soldiers interned in Belgium are to be reconducted to the frontier of France on the 9th and

At the review of the Prussian guards at Long Champs, the Emperor William addressed the troops. He thanked them for the heroism, endurance, and devotion they had displayed, and added that they must thank Providence for choosing them as the instruments to bring to pass events of such magni-

#### MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

elburst, the abode of the Empress Eugenie.

THE DEPOSED EMPEROR GOING TO ENGLAND-THE STATE OF PARIS-REMOVAL OF THE AS-SEMBLY FROM BORDEAUX.

LONDON, Monday, March 5, 1871. The Emperor Napoleon is hourly expected at Chia-

The Journal Official acknowledges that several battalions of the National Guard have retained their guns, but only to prevent their falling into the hands of the Prussians. The anomalous situation will speedily terminate. Passes to leave and enter Paris are no longer required.

It is reported that M. Favre has gone to Versailles with an architect to prepare the palace for the recention of the National Assembly, in anticipation of their early removal from Bordeaux.

It is reported in Paris that Julea Favre and Simon have tendered their resignations, but that Thiers will not accept them.

#### GENERAL FOREIGN NEWS.

ENGLAND.

PROCEEDINGS IN PARLIAMENT-ENGLAND LOSING SERIOUS TROUBLES IN IRELAND.

LONDON, Monday, March 6, 1871. In the House of Lords, this evening, the Marquis of Salsbury attacked the foreign policy of the Government, claiming that foreign Powers were all con-temptatous in their manner toward England. Prussis had declined the aid of England in negotiating peace with France, and Russia had repudiated obligations solemnly agreed to at the end of the Crimean war. These results be placed in contrast with the guarantees which England was a party to, and from them deduced the decay of her international influence. He urged the reorganization of the army, to the weakness of which he attributed much of England's loss of prestige.

Earl Granville protested against the unreasonableness of the assault made upon the conduct of foreign affairs by the Government. He quoted a distinguished American officer, who had expressed his surprise at the conplete state of preparation for war in which he found the The discussion ended by the adoption of an order for

reprinting the text of the guarantees given by England

In the House of Commons, to-day, Mr. Disraell gave notice that he should at a future day ask the Government to inform the House whether or not it was aware of last year's treaty between Russia and Prussia, when Mr. Odo Russell was sent to Versailles to consult the

German Chancellor. Mr. Gladstone communicated to the House information received from Westmeath Cenuty, Ireland, confirming previous reports of the mischievons tendency of affairs there. He said that special measures of precaution were needed, for the lives of the judges in that county were threatened, and he orged the members to take speedy

there was a sharp debate over the clause abolishing the purchase of commissions, the supporters of the system predicting a loss of military character and prestige

should it be abolished. The Grand Jury at Ennishillen, Ireland, have found true bills against Porter and five others for assault on Capt. Poynter at Belleisle. The case will be tried to

TAMMANY'S GRAND SACHEM-TWEED'S CHANCES. The Tammany Society met last evening in Taumany Hall, James B. Nicholson, Father of the Coun eil, in the chair. It was resolved to hold the next an anal election for Sachems on the third Monday in April. Much interest attaches to this prospective election, as if ne reported that several changes will be made, and it is a subject of conjecture as to what the newly-elected Sachems will do in relation to keeping Grand Sachem Tweed in office. According to the rules of Tammany Society, the same person cannot be elected Grand Sachem two terms in succession. Notwithstanding this rule, Senator Tweed has been Grand Sachem two terms in succession. Notwithstanding this rule, Senator Tweed has been Grand Sachem two uccessive terms, being kept in office the second term by the Bachems falling to hold an election, which embled him to hold over and evade the rule, that had previously operated without an exception. Whether he will arian "hold over," or will this line be elected, on the ground that he was not elected the last time, and will not, therefore, he elected two successive terms, is a question which the new Sachems will find a way to solve. is reported that several changes will be made, and it is a

#### FIRES IN BROADWAY AND PEARL ST.

A fire occurred last evening on the upper floor of Nos. 1,300 and 1,401 Broadway, occupied as a floor of Nos. 1,399 and 1,401 Broadway, occupied as a livery stable, by James Jenkins, and extended to the houses adjoining. All were seriously damaged. The house of Jenkins was \$5,000; partially insured. No. 1,600 was occupied on the first floor by James Murray as a hoot and shoe store. Loss on stock, \$800; not insured. The topper part was occupied by four families, whose combined loss is \$1,000; not insured. No. 1,605 is occupied on the first floor by J. Van Oblisen as a grocery; loss on the floor by J. Van Oblisen as a grocery in the third combined and the day for heiding the annual peculiar and the day

NEW-YORK, TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 1871.

and are damaged \$5,000; partially insured. The origin of the fire is unknown.

A fire occurred early last evening on the first floor of No. 186 Pearl-st., in the premises of Marcus Brothers & Co., dealers in glue, paints, &c. Loss on stock, \$7,000; insured for \$6,000 by the Germania; \$2,500 by the Mechanics' and Traders, and \$2,500 by another company. The second floor is occupied by Solomon Solomons, dealer in leaf tohacco. Loss on stock, \$2,500; fully insured. The third floor is occupied by Isidor Arnold, cigar manufacturer. He had 30,000 cigars stored on the first floor, all of which were destroyed. Loss, \$2,600; insured for \$7,500. There was no dismage on the fourth floor. The basement is occupied by T. W. Leonard, whose stock of cils was damaged \$2,500; insured. The building is owned by George F. Nesbitt, and is damaged \$2,000; fully insured. FOR BY THE GOVERNOR.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL AKERMAN.

THE OCCASION OF NEWSPAPER ATTACKS UPON HIM. To the Editor of the Tribune.

SIR: Squib after squib has appeared in certain Democratic and other opposition papers of the country, all endeavoring to disparage the Attorney General of the United States. To read these flings one would suppose that no President had ever made so great a mis-take as President Grant when he selected the Hon. Amos T. Akerman to occupy a place in his Cabinet. Some may conclude that since no denial of these statements appear in the public press there must be grounds for all or the mest of them. Your correspondent, knowing the facts as they really exist, as well as the secret springs that impel the envenomed shafts, wishes to lay before your readers a plain statement of the case. This is due to the President it whom much of the abuse referred to is really aimed. It is due especially to the Attorney-General, who is one of the purest of public men as well as one of the very best lawyers in the country, as every lawyer of any standing in Georgia, whence he comes, very well knows. He is conscientious. He is well balanced. He is incapable of corrupt motives or a mean action. He, as nearly as practicable, combines all the good qualities of his native New-England with all that is truly noble in the Southern character. In truth, Presiof this Attorney-General. These thrusts at him, proceed from correspondents of Democratic newspapers and from a distinctly marked class of Republican papers, popularly designated as "Oppositionists," but not influenced by a spirit of opposition solely. On the 7th day of October last, and on the 23d day of November, the Secretary of the Treasury found it necessary to submit to the Attorney-General certain questions "in relation to the claim of the United States on the Union Pacific Railroad Company, for reimbursement of interest paid by the United States on bonds issued as a subsidy to that Company." "The Government has issued its bonds to the Union Pacific Railroad Company to the amount of many millions," and that Company claims that the Government is bound to pay the interest on these bonds as they become due, and then wait until the expiration of 30 years from the issuing of the bonds before relimbursement shall be made, the interest in the mean time becoming due send-annually. "The amount which the Company will thus owe the Government at the expiration of thirty years will be nearly trichle the principal." These many millions the Company asks the use of for 30 years without interest. The question to be decided is one of great moment to the Government as well as to its begglicaries, the members of the Union Pacific Railroad Company. A vast array of legal talent was brought to bear upon the questions involved. The Attorney-General beard arguments day after day, and examined authorities might after might, to the end that justice might be done. At length, the argument being really exhaussed and the Attorney-General ready to give his opinion; the Company saked time to bring other counsel before him to be heard. This request, thought to be reasonable, was granted. During the delay thus granted, a Boston newspaper in the interest of the Company came out in a labored article on the questions involved, censuring, in severe terms, the delay on the part of the Attorney-General; hoping, however, in great charity, that this delay was not caused from any improper motives on the part of the Lawdenies of the Government may lawfully claim from the Company is severe terms, the delay thus the hope that when he was displaced an Attorney-General; hoping, however, in great charity, that this delay was not caused from any improper motives on the part of the Attorney-General the Company cannot at the Markenson by these various instituted to another that to the claim of the United States on the Union Pacific Railroad Company, for reimbursement of interest paid

#### PRINCE ERIE AND KING COTTON-JAMES FISK. JR., UNDER \$200,000 BONDS.

### LONG ISLAND RAILROADS.

The branch of the Long Island Railroad to Flushing has been incorporated under the General Rail road act and called the Flushing and Newtown Railroad The following are the officers of the Company: The Hon. E. A. Lawrence, President; Joseph F. Franklyn, Vice President; R. Sande Tucker, Secretary. In addition to the officers, the Hon. Robert B. Rosevelt, G. R. Garret son, John Henderson, Eugene Lynch, Thomas Gasten, and B. W. Downing are Directors. The capital stock of
the Company is \$190,000, and \$120,000 worth of bonds will
be issued, guaranteed by the Long Island Railroad. The
map of the route has been forwarded to Albany. It wil
leave the Long Island Railroad at Winfield, ran direct
through the center of Newtown village, and enter Finshing about one-quarier of a mile south of the Finshing
and North Side Railroad bridge. The depot at Finshing
which will also be the termines, will be on the corner of
Janger-ave, and Prospect-st. Elegant cars are promised
on this road. The fire will be ten cents to Finshing,
ether paid in the cars or when tickets are purchased.
A hill granting the road the privilege of crossing Finshing Creek with a draw has been forwarded to Albany.
The Trustees have asked the consent of the Finshing
Trustees to enter the village. The road will be leased
and run by the Long Island Bailroad.
The map of the Central Railroad route was filed on
Saturday in the County Clerk's Office. The line diverges
from the Finshing and North Side Railroad at the easiern and of the Main-st, drawbridge, and takes a southerly course along the edge of the meadows, crossing
Laurencest. Flushing, at Monkey Hill, and, running
thence through the "Dlack stump" district, it crosses the
Long Island Railroad at Hyde Park toll-gate. and B. W. Downing are Directors. The capital stock of

#### THE ATLANTIC YACHT CLUB-ELECTION OF OF

The annual meeting of the Atlantic Yacht Club was held at the Club-room in Court st., Brooklyn, last night. There was a large attendance of members, and nearly every yacht in the race was represented. Commodere Voorbis, owner of the yacht Tidai Wave, presided, with John B. Morgan as Secretary. Commodore Voorhis, in opening the meeting made hits farewell

Voorbis, in opening the meeting made hits farewell appeach as Commodure of the Chub, a position he has filled for two years. The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:

Commodure—Wallam Peet vach Nimbus, late Vice-Commodure, Vice-Commodure, J. Rogers Maywell, wash Perrices, late Rear Commodure, Sea Commodure—John A. Monnell, Resembling Secretary—John B. Morgan, reflected, Treasure—H. H. Hogins, reflected, Neasures—C. J. Lispitt, Corresponding Secretary—Leslis E. Wetmore, reflected, Resembler Committee—H. H. Hogins, George A. Theyer, G. H. Gramis, C. Jones, John B. Morgan Junes T. Sparkman, Transces—William C. Swaler, John B. Morgan Junes T. Sparkman, Transces—William C. Swaler, John B. Morgan Junes T. Sparkman, Transces—William A. Liwell, Linius E. Wetmare, Edward Harver, A. S. Haiste, William A. Liwell, Linius E. Wetmare, Edward Harver, A. S. Haiste, William A. Liwell, Linius E. Lewis C. Thomas Camming, Ludius Hernellon, Thomas Camming, Ludius Hernellon, Thomas Caphan, George A. Thaver, Camming, Ludius Hernellon, Thomas Caphan, George A. Thaver, Camming, Ludius Hernellon, Thomas Caphan, George A. Thaver,

#### WASHINGTON.

SPECULATIONS CONCERNING THE PROBABLE LENGTH OF THE SESSION OF CONGRESS—THE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE—STRUG-GLE FOR THE CHAIRMANSHIP-LAWLESSNESS IN SOUTH CAROLINA-U. 8, TROOPS CALLED

18Y TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE!.

WASHINGTON, Monday, March 6, 1871. The Senate Republican cancus will meet to-morrow morning for the purpose of appointing a committee to revise the list of Senate Committees, and of considering the question of fixing an early date for adjournment. Much difference of opinion prevails among Senators upon the latter question. It is certain that the House resolution will not be agreed to, and the prospect now is that there many Senators are strongly opposed to adjourning before something is done to put a stop to the acts of lawlessness and violence in the South, which they say are jucreasing to an alarming extent. They declare it would be disgraceful for Congress to go home, in face of the state of affairs existing in North and South Carolina. Others want the duty on coal and salt repealed, and the Income tax abolished, before adjourning, and still others want to stay long enough to annex Santo Domingo. It is c tite certain that if any general legislation is begun it will be impossible to bring the session to a close under a month or six weeks. If, therefore, both Houses do not agree by the end of this week upon a day for adjourning it will be safe to predict that Congress will sit until about the middle of April. The organization of the Ways and Means Committee is

the topic of the most absorbing interest here at present. Two months ago, the most prominent candidates for the Dawes, Judge Keiley, and Gen. Garfield. Some weeks ago, Mr. Dawes signified his special desire to remain at the head of the Appropriations Committee, and so strong an opposition was developed in some quarters to Judge Kelley, on account of his devotion to the principles of Protection, that he was believed to be Gen. Garfield would be given the place, as a moderate Protectionist of long service on the Finance Committee, and with force and ability enough to lead the House; and people settled down into this belief until about a week ago, when vague rumors began to prevail that something new was in progress. It now appears that keep Gen. Garfield off the Committee. They accuse him of being unsafe upon the ques-Protection, and of leaning toward the views of the "Revenue Reformers." A weighty influence has thus been brought to bear upon the Speaker give Gen. Garfield the Chairmanship. Success is claimed, by which Mr. Dawes will consent to take the Ways and Means Chairmanship, to which it is urged that he is entitled as the regain promotion from his present succeed Mr. Dawes in the Appropriations Chairmanship and Mr. Hooper would get the Banking and Carrency Committee. Properly to make up the Ways and Means Committee is the most perplexing and deficult task de doubly difficult at present on account of the unsettled state of opinion upon questions of Turiff and Taxation, and the lack of positive knowledge of the views of a majority of the House upon these subjects. If the lose all dignity, importance, and character of leadership. pointment of the Committee until the December session

States troops to suppress outrages in the Counties of Union and York, in South Carolina, where he reports that men are murdered or driven from their homes nightly, because of their political opinion. Gov. Scot informs the President that there is no sufficiently around and equipped militia to give the needed protection, and that if he did have at his disposal a competent militia port and subsist them. He says that it is not just United States at bay for four years, and often achieved signal triumphs over its best armies; and that to expect most grievous improvement, requiring the making of bricks with neither straw nor clay. He states that the Ku-Klux, that were formerly thought to be a mere political ghoul, a bloody specter conjured up for party purposes, is now a terrible fact, an armed organization, thuroughly equipped, having its munication. He says that if Congress will pass an ne guaranteeing the State a full reimbursement for money a expended in suppressing domestic violence, South Caro-lina can then obtain the necessary credit to mobilize her permanent garrison in the disaffected sections will give | THE LAST SESSION OF THE XLIST CONGRESS. militia, and sustain them in the field. Nothing but a the protection to the men who are threatened with nearderorexite, solely because of their fidelity to the principles of free government. As an evidence of the con sflairs in South Carolina, the facts are stated, that, on last Monday, a company of United States troops, that left Columbia for York, had the railroad form up in their front by a body of armed men, and were obliged to march by the road. On Friday last the Eepublican members of the Legislature, now sitting, paid men to picket the road leading from the Capital, because o well-grounded fears of a Ku-Klux rald upon their body. A Committee of three members of the Legislature of south Carolina will arrive here in a day or two to lay the condition of affairs in South Carolina before the President. Mr. Warren Wlikes, the leading Conservative

Commissioner Picasonton will send to Congress, at an early day, a communication in regard to the Income tax. the export of whisky, and a modification of the Tobacco laws. He will repeat the recommendations which he made to the last Congress, and urge immediate action on them. Congress not being in session to-day, the mena bers througed the Departments, which they had been obliged to neglect during the past week.

The only new land grant measures which passed the XLIst Congress were the following: Oregon branch, Paeific Raliroad, 4,760,000 acres; supplemental Northern Pa cific, 11,000,000; Texas Pacific, with New-Orleans, La., and Fort Yums, Cal., branches, 18,000,000; making a total of 35,760,000 acres. At the opening of last session there were on the Speaker's table 23 land grant Senate bills, of which 19 were for grants to ratirouds, one for an irrigating canal in New-Mexico, another for the improve ment of Duluth Harbor, one for the Montana Iron Man ufacturing Company, and one to the State of Fiorida, for various purposes. The total amount involved in these hills was estimated by the General Land Office at 75, 006,326 acres. In this batch of acts the Texas Pacific, as originally possed by the Senate, called for 26,000,0 acres. The bill substituted by the House called for about 1,,000,000 acres; that which passed, it is estimated, added about 5,000,000 more, making the total as above. Beside the 23 bills on the Speaker's table, the Senate had on its calendar 32 bills, 25 of which were for railroads, eight for canals, and one for a mail steamship company. The total amount required by these bills was estimated at 114,218,500 acres. The total amount asked by the Senate measures was 189,724,920 acres. In the House every such bill nt oduced being referred, under the rules, to the Public La ids Committee, was smothered there, so the House is not responsible for any of these

propositions. It is probable that the Hon. Amasa Cobb of Wisconsin will be appointed one of the three Commissioners to examine claims for Quartermasters' and Commissaries stores, taken by the army from loyal people at the South. Mr. Cobb has just completed a term of eight years in the House, and his long service upon the Committee of Claims has peculiarly fitted him for the difficult work of the new Claims Commission.

Ex-Senator Abbott of North Carolina will present to the Senate, to-morrow, through Senater Pool, a carefully drawn memorial setting forth the grounds for the claim made in his behalf, that he is legally elected U. S. Senator from North Carolina, for the term begin ning on the 4th inst. The memorial presents a suc cinct history of the election held by the Legislaon the second Tuesday of November, 1870. According to this statement the vote stood as follows: In the Senate : for Zebulon B. Vance, 32; for Joseph C. Abbolt, 11; Scattering, 5; making 48 persons voting. In the House of Representatives, on the same day, Mr. Vance received 63; Mr. Abbott, 32; and 10 votes east for six other persons; in all 105 persons voting.

The Legislature next day went into Joint Convention, and Zebulon B. Vance was declared elected to the United States Senate, instead of the declaration being made, as of right it ought to have been, according to Mr. Abbott's memorial, that the memorialist had received a majority of the votes legally cast. The memorial argues that if the votes cast for Mr. Vance elected; but because of reasons act forth, Mr. Abbott claims that these votes were void, and of no effect, and ought not to have been received, counted, or declared as votes. Their only legal effect is the evidence they furnish of the presence of a quorum at said election. Mr. Vance was a member of the House of Representatives of the United States previous to the War of the Rebellion, and as such he took the oath to support the Constitution. During the Rebellion he accepted and held the office of Colonel in the Robel army, and took an oath of allegiance to the Confederacy. He was also Rebel Governor of North Carolina from August, 1862, to April, 1865, when our forces occupied North Carolina. These are matters of common history, well known to the Senators and Representatives whose votes were given to him. These facts can be proven by the oaths of the members so voting, and also by the fact that, in the caucus held by such members, Mr. Vance's disqualification was fully discussed, and by a manimous vote it was resolved to disregard the fact that under the Constitution and laws of the United States he was ineligible for any official position. Mr. Abbott's memorial takes the ground that such ineligibility invalidates the election, that Mr. Vance was not entitled to be voted for, and that such has been the determination of the Senate in all contested elections, where such disqualifications has existed. Mr.

"Your memorialist freely admits that, in a case where the Legislature should vote for a person under disqualification, without knowledge of the facts, while the votes would be void in so far as to give no title to the place to the individual voted for, yet the uniform legislative rule is in consonance with justice, to remit the case to the body laboring under misapprehension for a new election; as, for example, in the case of an election by a Legislature of a State of a citizen of 29 years of age, under the belief that he had attained the required age. But your memorialist submits that it has been the uniform rule of decision, in legislative assemblies both in this country and in England, from the earliest times, wherever the question has arisen, as well as the uniform entrent of judicial decision in cases involving like questions, that votes knowingly cast for an incigible candidate are not only void, as to him, but are to Your memorialist freely admits that, in a case

a case the votes would be treated as though east for a fictitions person, and be declared blank, and of no effect the election. Referring to the probability that the members voting for Vance expected Congress to relieve him of his disability, Mr. Abbott's memorial auggests that in this case they took the risk of having their hallots treated as mulities, in case of the non-concument of such a law. It also argues that if such a rule of action be admitted, there can be no disqualification sufficient to render any election a nullity, because the members of a Legis-After referring to the fact that his admission, if allowed, could not be construed as being affected by party con-silerations, the Schafe being so constituted that the votes Abbott closes his memorial as follows:

Abbott closes his memorial as follows:

Wherefore, your memorialist, having received a clear majority of all the legal votes cast in the two branches of the Legislature of North Carolina on the day when an election for Senator of the United States was held in pursuance of law, and, a constitutional quorum being present, claims the sent to which he is entitled, being so duly cleated, and pays leave to maintain that claim in such manner as the Senate may hold.

The first case taken up by the Grand Jury of the Criminal Court, to-day, was that of the Hon. C. C. Bernell.

inal Court, to-day, was that of the Hon. C. C. Bowen, charged with bigamy, in having a wife, Mrs. Frances Rowen, living in Augusta, Ga., when he married Mrs.

dent to employ additional artists, if necessary, to aid in

deut to employ additional artists, if necessary, to an in the work. The agencies will also be recognized. Senator Chandler gave a grand reception this evening at his residence. There were present President Grant, Vice-President Celfax, Speaker Blaine, alt the members of the Joint High Commission, Judges of the Supreme Court of the United State, all the members of the Cabi-net, Beros Geralds, M. Changary, the Russian Mulsier, various Semators and Euroscentarives, Horices Greeler, Gen, Britler, Gen, Pleasonton, Gens, Porter and Habcock, and others.

eu. York.

William Lene Bonker, Consul for California and Oregon, and for Wash-gina Territory, to reade at San Francisco.

Charles Alan Henderson, Consul for Massarhanetts, Vernant, and New-Charles Alan Henderson, Consul for Massarhanetts, Vernant, and New-

Hospinger, to reside at New-Gelleria.

Alfred Entucks, and Missour, to reside at Salimore.

# WHAT WAS DONE AND WHAT WAS LEFT UNDONE.

INVITALEGRAPH TO THE TERBURE! Washington, March 6 .- The work accom-Plished by the XLIst Congress during its last session was unimportant, if the measures of public interest actually enacted into law be considered. Probably no previous Congress, in the course of its cleang session, ever put so few measures of important general legisla-tion upon the statute-book; and certainly no Congress ever allowed so long a list of bills that had passed one House to die apon the calendar of the other. The value of the session to the country must fairly be estimated, not by the bills passed, but by the amount of mischlevous legislation, urged by all the power of the lobby, staughter of all subsidy-schemes, land-grabs, and other plans of plunder, is what the XLIst Congress must do nd upon for the approval of the people, rather than upon the original legislation it has perfected.

Chief among the few important measures adopted, in the possibility of its future results, is the resolution which authorized the sending of the Santo Domingo Commissioners, which, if it should prove the forerunner of a gigantic scheme of tropical annexation, ending in the absorption of all the West Indies and the whole continent down to the Isthmus of Darien, would be entitled

to rank as the great measure of the XLIst Congress.
In its immediate fruits, the Texas Pacific Railroad bill is the leading legislative act of the session. It will so ettle the Indian question in all our Southern territo. as the Union Pacific road has in the central belt of the West. The Apaches and Commehes will cease their murders and depredations as soon as the locomotive crosses the plains of Texas, New-Mexico, and Arizona and the rich mineral region lying between the Rio Grande and the Colorado will yield incalculable treasures now inaccessible by reason of the hostility of the

The section attached to an Appropriation bill by Senator Trumbult, authorizing the President to make a commencement toward Civil Service Reform, by providing a areful system for ascertaining the capacity of applicants for office, is of great consequence when considered as the entering wedge to future legislation for insuring the effi-ciency of the civil employes of the Government.

The act to insure the purity of elections, commonly known as the "Enforcement bill," is a measure of im-portance. If it works as well as its framers hope, the gigantic frauds upon the ballot, which are of such frequent occurrence in great cities, will sease. The partial repeal of the Test Oath is but a silent step

in the direction of General Amnesty, but it shows the drift of opinion, and makes certain the speedy removal of all disabilities as one of the first acts of the new Con-The bill matured by the Commerce Committees of both

Houses, making provision for the better security of life on steamers, will save hundreds of lives on the Western Much has been done toward reforming abuses in the

Indian service. The absurdity of making treaties with savages, and negotiating with them as with independent nations, is stopped, and the swindling of the Indians by rascally claim agents, will no longer be possible. powers of the Peace Commission are enlarged, and all payments of large amounts made to the Indians by Government agents must be audited by the Commis

An important measure to the late rebellious States is the section added to the Army Appropriation bill, providing for a Commission to take testimony to substan tiate claims for food and supplies furnished by loyal citizens to the Union army, with a view to their flual pay-

A measure of doubtful wisdom is the law granting a pension to every mun who served in the war of 1812. It takes four millions from the Treasury this year, and will

The settlement of the question respecting the respon

sibility of the Government for the payment of the interest on the Union and Central Pacific Railroad bonds; the act to encourage a grand National Exposition in Philadeiphia in 1876; and the law to preserve food fish on th Atlantic coast, complete the list of measures of public

importance passed during the session just closed. It is a meager list, but if the amount of benefit conferred upon the country by the Winter's work of Congress is trifling, it is a subject for congratulation that no great harm has been done. The politicians, of which the law-making body is largely composed, have been afraid to grapple with the great questions of the future that are yet but dimly outlined in the public mind, and to settle the questions of the day that call for the exercise of wis-dom and statesmanship; but they have heard and obeyed the voice of the people protesting against the plunder of the public treasury and the public domain for the benefit of corporations, speculators, and adventurers, and for this they deserve the thanks of the country.

## CUSTOM-HOUSE REFORM.

PROVISIONS OF SENATOR FENTON'S NEW BILL. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE ]

Washington, March 6 .- Mr. Fenton will introduce a bill, to-morrow, to regulate the service of the Government in the collection of the Customs at the various ports of entry in the United States, and the dis-position of fines, penalties, and forfeitures, incurred under the laws relating thereto, and for other purposes. The bill looks to a general reform of the Revenue service, especially in New-York, embracing the Naval Office, and Surveyor's and Appraiser's Departments, and is intended to simplify and largely reduce the expenses of tended to simplify and largely reduce the expenses of the collection of the Revenue. It provides that the Collector at New-York shall have \$15,000 per annum, and that the Surveyor, Naval Officer, and the Appraiser of the Port shall each be paid \$10,000 a year. The salaries of the various officers and employés connected with the Collector's and Appraiser's Departments are to be adjusted, the salaries of some being increased, and those of others reduced, and the number of persons employed cut down, so that in the entire expense there is a very considerable reduction. The tenth section provides that all fines and penalties, and the proceeds of all condemnations paid to or received by any collector or other officer of the customs for violations of any of the customs or revenue laws, by authority of any salarre, complaint, or proceeding shall be paid into the Treasury of the United States, and no portion thereof shall be paid or distributed to any officer, except where attempts at sanughing are defected, and seizure of merchandise so decimed to be sanusgied is actually made. In such cases, the officer or officers making the seizure shall be entitled to one-fourth the proceeds thereof, after deducting all costs and expenses of condemnation, and the duties accruing on the goods. It further provides that it shall not be lawful for any officer for compromise or settle any claim arising under the Castoms laws, for relieve from any fine, penalty, or forfeiture, or fall to prosecute any effender, under the authority and direction of the Secretary of the Treasury or the President. The eleventh and twelfth sections relate to the General Order business and cartage system. The fourteenth section provides that the appointment of all officers of the Customs, requiring the concurrence of the Secate, shall be for the term of four years, and that they shall hold their offices respectively until their successors shall have been appointed and daring the term of such appointment, except for cause; and before any removal shall be made the collection of the Revenue. It provides that the Col-

## UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT DECISIONS. Washington, March 6.—The following deci-

stons were rendered in the United States Supreme Court to-day:

The State of Virginia agt, the State of West Virginia.—
This was a bill denying the varidity of the cession of the Countries of Jefferson and Berkley to West Virginia. The detendant demarred to the bill, and the Court now sustained the demarrer and dismissed the bill, taking the tree that there was a compact between the two states to able the decision of an election by the people of those conties on the subject. An election was held and the west was in favor of West Virginia, according to the efficial returns, as recorded and certified by the Governor, which was a decision of the question. The allegations of fraud were not sustained. Mr. Justice Miller elivered the opinion of the Court.

McVeigh agt, the United States.—Error to the Circuit bart for the District of Virginia.—This was a proceeding a combiscate the property of McVeigh, and he appearing y coursel and filing an answer. On metion of the district-Attorney, the Court below struck out his chain, and answers on the ground that he was a resident of the Hy of Richmond, within the Confederate lines, and a chel, holding that he had no standing in Court. This ourt is unanimous in the opinion that this was an error of the Court below, and that, when assailed sere, McVeigh had a right to defend there. The intility and the right are inseparable, and a ficrent result would be a blot on the jurispranence of civilization of the courty. The provision of the institution, that ne one shall be deprived of life, lib-ty, or property, without due process of law, is conclused the of the subject. Whatever the extent of the abbility of the subject. Constitution, that he one shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law, is conclusive of the subject. Whatever the extent of dasability of an alien enemy to sue in the hosfile country, he is clearly liable to be sized, and this carries with it the right of defense. The right of McVeigh to sue cut this was austained, and the dagment was revoked, and the cause remained with instructions to the Court below to proceed in the conformity to law. Mr. Justice Swayne delivered the opinion of the Court.

# EXTENSIVE FIRE IN CINCINNATI.

CINCINNATI, March 6.—Early this morning a fire was discovered in the rear part of Eberhard's storeroom on Main-st., Portsmouth. The flames spread with great rapidity, and in a comparatively short time nearly the whole square between Market and Ally-sta was in rains. The Taylor House was burned, together with Eberbarn's stor-room, Flonder & Morran's clothing es-tablishment, Yorkie's music-store, Valley's book-store, Thomas Dugan & Co.'s book-store, The Times newspaper

THE EOSTON, HARTFORD AND ERIE RAILEOAD DECLARED BANKRUPT.

HARTFORD, March 6 .- Judge Shipman of the United States District Court, to-day, passed an order or the petition of James Alden of New York, adjudicating the Beston, Hartford and Eric Corporation bankrupt, and a warrant was issued, returnable before John Hooker, Register, on the 20th incl. A motion of Seth Admis, to become a co-respondent, was overruled, on the ground that there could be regularly no respondent at this stage of the proceedings but the bankrupt itself.

PERSONALITIES-BY TELEGRAPH. .. The Rev. S. B. Canfield of Syracuse, N. Y., died

James G. Gould, formerly of Boston, a Cali-forms piecer, det in San Francisco restorias Capt. D. H. McBride, an old and well known

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

The ice in the St. Croix River (Maine) broke up The Boston fair, in aid of Dr. Cull's Home for . A shock of an earthquake was experienced at ville, Wis, a few alghts since.

... A shock of earthquake was felt, about 6 o'clock Sanday evening, in New-Hampshire.

. The fraternity of the Ancient and Accepted ... The steamship Sacramento, which sailed from Saa Francisco on Saturday for Panama, carried only 25 cabin namenton

....The Commissioners of the paid Fire Department of Philadelphia have elected Wm. H. Johnson Chief Rughner. He is a member of the Goodwill Engine and a Republican in politics. .Advices from St. Joseph, Mich., the center of

.Disappointed Magdalena Bay colonists contime to arrive at Sen Francisco. They report that no progress whateve has been made toward actual settlement at that place, and that, unless provision be made for the immediate departure of the colonists on the arrival in New York, they will suffer terribly. The Company employ in most despercate means to get 1,000 men landed there before May, to enable them to claim demages from Mexico for non-fulfillment of the contract.

CRIMES AND CASUALTIES-BY TELEGRAPH. ... The schooner Aptos was blown out to sea from

The store and stock of Eben B. Phillips & Co., ... Charles Van Dine, a farmer, said to have been unter fear of peculiary embarrassount, committed saidle, at Fishaill Plans, N. V. an Stitute.

... A man named Hinsman, who worked in Lynn, Mass, was run over and killed on the Eastern Railroad, on Naturday night. The family of the deceases live in this city.

Moses Laundry died at Keeseville, N. Y., on r, from a kaife woun! inflicted by Charles Corrier on Saturdar Crevier get into a row and Laundry was endeavoring to get him when the wound was inflicted. Crevier has been arrested.

home, when the wound was indicted. Crevier has been arrested.

A stage was robbed by highwaymen, near Virginia City, in the State of Norvada, on Satantiay. The only plansier there obtained was \$300, in coin, in Wells, Farge & Only treasure box. The nonce has been recovered, and two of the robbers captured. Two others of the gang escaped, but the officers are in pursuit of them.

The Chinesse indulgred in a pitch battle on Jackson-st., San Francisco, on Sanday. Knives and iron hars were fresby mod. They were inspired dispersed by means of a shower of bricks forther from the neighboring roofs by mutual friends of the rominstands. Many from the neighboring roofs by mutual friends of the rominstands. Many from the neighboring roofs by mutual friends of the rominstands. Many from the neighboring roofs by mutual friends of the rominstands. Many from the neighboring roofs by mutual friends of the rominstands. Many from the neighboring roofs by mutual friends of the rominstands. Many from the neighboring roofs by mutual friends of the rominstands. Many from the neighboring roofs by mutual friends of the rominstands.

On Sunday night a family named Walker, con-

#### PRICE FOUR CENTS.

LENT CLOSES THE SEASON. WASHINGTON GAYETIES ENDED - THE SEASON AND ITS DISSIPATIONS-WHO AND HOW.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27 .- If any one entertains a goubt as to the virtue of certain regulations of the Holy Catholic Church, a Winter in Washington would go far to despel the doubt, especially if the Winter included that period when the festivities, raging at their highest, are suddenly reduced to askes by the extinguisher of Lent, in which case the forty days of fasting and prayer will be seen to lose half their ritualistic significance. significance and become a sanitary crovision. And certainly no Lent was ever more needed than this one has been, for the season has not been a short one, and its exactions have been severe. Magrons, martyrs to the morning visit to the extent of 200 of 300 a week, have forseworn home and taken, not to their seeds, but to their coaches, so long as it lasted. The docto? has become the bosom friend of half the world, and matinees dansantes and receptions have fed its flame furiously; while, as its end approached, as the custom is, it blazed like a

You think the term is strong; but to what better car one compare a thing that absorbs life and strength and beauty and health, into which mothers fling their daugh ters as they used to fling them into the fires of Molocu, from which the blooming siri comes out too often little different from a painted beldame, and which is the kindler of fevers and fits and the whole train of cata leptic and nervous diseases ! The Washington season is indeed a generic thing. Women come to the place for the sake of it, as they go to no other city. The ridiculous assumption that the wives of politicians have no right to any privacy renders official society accessible to all, while the introductions obtained there to people of the more select circles, when fortified by wealth and pertinacity, open the whole charmed round of pleasure; and, beginning modestly with a single public reception, and entired to venture further, one is soon plunged in three deep for every night, and over head and ears the last half-dozen. Not to be seen at Mrs. Carlisle's evenings is to be parvenu; not to attend Mrs. Brynn's dancing afternoons is to be plebeian; to have been ab-sent from Lady Thornton's parties was to have been ignobly uninvited; not to have been a part of the Peruvian Freyre's ball was vulgar unnequalitance with the diplomats; and if you went to the Pomeroys, where the dining-room of the Arlington was the only place large go to the Hallidays on the same night, where a daughter of the house had just become alcounteas, and, meanwhile, the hops at the hotels, the theaters, and the dim ers, harrying on-

Rolls and masks begun at midnight, burning ever to mid-da

as if time were to be no more. Pleasant things these balls, too; one must be anchorize to deny it! delightful beeths for the wayfarer through Vanity Pair. When you entered their atmosphere you found it semething vastly other is an that of the real matter-of-fact life of every day that pursued you outside; it was a region of enchantment; the stair cases, where art concealed everything but the branch and swinging from lintel and window and picture and brace of wax-lights overhead; maintels covered with moss and bedded with violets; tall vases on precious pediments lifting an overflowing wealth of azalias and heliotropes and rare clusters of scarlet passion-flowers, and cold camelias, and burning geraniums, and great white orchids biving a hencyed breath in their golden hearts. and daplines dying jot their own sweetness, encircling the tern-filled basins where they fountains cooled the air about them; music murmured there too; a stream of is, escended and descended the stairway; down one another the crystal and gold and silver of a table above, red with burgundy and bordeaux, tempting with terrapin and troffles, with enormities of spiced meats and pastries and confections and fruits. Perhaps the President was in the smoking-room, and two or three of his Cabinet Ministers were not far away;

the General of the Army, the Admiral of the Navy, were

sure to be among the guests. There were the Foreign Ministers, whose whole life is in party-going; there were distinguished strangers and world-known women, any enjoyment of wisdom or learning or wit-these people were but accessories along the wall-it was given Vanity Fair, as I said, for the sale of its wares. Number less beautiful shapes flitted by you-you, bewildered as some Mohammedan just let loose among the houris of his heaven. Your eye rested on one, perhaps, a faca pure as a pearl it may have been, yet levely only with the leveliness of youth, its down eye, its downy skin, its happy smile; but the tellette was an allerement in itself, with its delicately-tinted silk, its hoarfrost of lacits pearls and diamonds; the maiden moved so serens; along, so native to the air, as it were, that it seemed as if such scenes were the only ones in which it was fit she should be found. But you watched her for a while, saw her, werm from the dance, as she took her lee, while her bare white shoulders were in the disciplit that swayed the heavy curtain behind her; presently she went further into the great supper-room, eating there—like a locust—with the appetite of youth and dancing; sha ended by swallowing the little bird molded of pule de fola gras, and nestling in a jelly so strongly sessoned as to frive the blood to her temples, she sipped a pointion nto which nothing entered but old spirits and fermenting fruit-juices, and then her partner's arm was round her waist, her head was on his shoulder, and she was plunging at the signal into the German, whirling to delicious' measures, presently felasped in a new embrace, flying from that man's arms to another's, growing wild with the abandon of the figure, her bair flying, her dress disordered, her powder caked, her face red, till pansing one instant for the champagne in a servant's hands, your girl with the face as pure as pearl, seemed nothing but a delirious Bacchante. If you pursued observation further, you found that she went home at daybreak, that st I throbbing with excitement she could find no sleep, but that knowing if she did not sleep she would be unfit for the next rout, she desed berself with a soothing dreg and was soon lost in dreams as wild as the nig een-a tremendous drug, as yet unknown in all lie powers to its discoverer-which burns and paralyzes to eyelide, and blinds her eyes and makes her brain to many a day as uncless as her hands, resting her nerves by weakening them, and leaving them all ready, with the next strain, for foaming and torturing hysterics and idiotic epilepsy, and you acknowledged that Lent cases none too early, nuless she and all her kin wished death to take them " where they never see the sun."

So there are no more parties now; we went to church Ash Wednesday-those of us who got away from the balls in season-and had a pinch of ashes sprinkled in our false hair; we have put away our Duchesse face and diamonds, we have getten out our prayer-books and resaries. Perhaps we shall miss Porter's polaonous punch as The Louisville Commercial's letters call it, but we shall find plenty of excuse in the heat or the chill of the weather for a little, not a little, of our own, for we have grown so accustomed to the spur and sting of strong, sweet liquers that without them we should drop; soon we shall venture on some mild theatricals, whose procoeds shall be given to the poor; perhaps we shall sing Martha over again; some political spread will be nece which we shall all go, as we never went before, and because that lovce is regarded as a sort of ponitential service anyway; we shall have Nilsson nights, with pardonable suppers fafferward; we shall forego fiesh, but then the shad are just coming; and before we know it, all gently and under the rose, we shall be stealing into a new season, the fresh, gay season that the March winds herold to us. But to-day, fairly weary with the last one, the only thing we find to cogret is the presence of the young English noblemen whom fate sent to our shores just a week too late, und whom we shall doubtless secure for the chief attraction of a few stately dinners and solemn teas, but shall not make captive to the extent of our full fascinations, for our wits are a little shaken with our dissipation, and no-body since the days of Heloise has found sackcioth and tales so becoming as point-lace and pearls.

#### THE ALBANY EXPRESS ROBBERY.

ALBANY, March 6 .- Several witnesses were xamined this afternoon for the prosecution in the Fil Company, testified that he saw Filkins on the Wednesday before the rubbery, and heard him make inquiries as to who had charm of the Expres ons.